

**East Greenwich School Committee**

**Monday, June 14, 2010**

**Hanaford School**

**200 Middle Road**

**East Greenwich, RI 02818**

**ANY ITEMS ON THE AGENDA MAY BE SUBJECT TO A VOTE**

**6:00p.m. Executive Session, RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) Custodian Contract  
Negotiations and Possible Litigation**

**7:00p.m. Regular Meeting**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**The June 14, 2010 School Committee meeting was held at the Hanaford School. The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Chair JeanAnn Guliano called the meeting to order at 7:20p.m. Also present were Vice-Chair, Anne Palumbo, Susan Records, Robert Durant, Mrs. Winters, Mrs. Gifford and Mr. Martin as well as Maryanne Crawford, Director of Administration and Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent of Schools.**

**Mr. John Leidecker, NEARI Representative, addressed the Committee and asked how custodians will afford to pay for health care. He added that the benefit package makes it impossible for families to take care of their children. It's a life threatening situation and on July 1 they have to make a decision whether to eat, pay their mortgage or buy medicine. Custodians gave concessions so what happened. Families are now going to suffer. Mrs. Guliano stated that the administration is meeting with each custodian to go over their options. Mr. Leidecker asked to have the custodian outsourcing put**

on the agenda for June 22nd and rescind the vote. He added this will not end with court or arbitration.

Mrs. Guliano noted that this is not a regularly scheduled meeting and there will only be public comments for items on the agenda.

## **II. Appointments**

### **a. Principal, Meadowbrook Farms School**

Dr. Mercurio stated that we will benefit from Dr. Areglado's knowledge. We will suspend the search for principal remove the term interim immediately, and appoint him for one year. Laurie Ratigan, teacher at Meadowbrook, stated that it has been a few rough years at Meadowbrook but it's been worth it because it led them to Dr. Areglado. Mr. Martin made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Winters to approve the hiring of Dr. Ronald Areglado as Principal of Meadowbrook Farms School for the 2010-2011 school year pending contract approval. The motion was unanimous.

### **b. Football Coach, East Greenwich High School**

Dr. Mercurio stated that he supports the recommendation to appoint John George as Football Coach. His recommendation was to re-post this position when the first recommended candidate withdrew. Mr. Anthony DellaGrotta expressed his displeasure with the process. He can't imagine how we could fire someone who was employed in the sports program for ten years. It was unethical not to take the second candidate when the first withdrew. He added that people should be ashamed of how it was done. He wants the rubric for the second round of interviews and the results. He feels it is the biggest black eye for the East Greenwich School District.

Mr. William Higgins asked about the job requirements and stated applicants need a coaching certificate. But the recommended candidate doesn't show up as having taken the RIIL certification. Dr. Mercurio stated that the RIIL allows a window of time to get this done, up to six months. He added that we've had other applicants who were appointed and they didn't have that certification. Mr. Durant made a motion which was seconded by Mrs. Winters to approve the appointment of John George as football coach. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Durant noted that he was the School Committee representative on the interviewing committee and there was overwhelming consensus that Mr. George was the one for the job. Mr. George has dealt with some of the best and he is a Physics Teacher at our high school. He added that Mr. George is one of the most qualified candidates for high school football coach according to another person on the interviewing committee. Mr. Martin stated that one of the goals principals have is to hire a teachers as coaches. Mrs. Records agrees that it's important for coaches to be in the buildings since it builds relationships with kids.

### **III. Parental Leave Extension**

a. On a motion made by Mrs. Winters and seconded by Mr. Durant, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the parental leave of Jennifer Shanahan, Speech and Language Pathologist, from September 1, 2010 until November 30, 2010.

### **IV. Retirements**

a. On a motion made by Mrs. Winters and seconded by Mrs. Palumbo, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the

**retirement of Linda Santos, Reading Teacher at Hanaford School, effective June 23, 2010 after 26 years of service**

**b. On a motion made by Mr. Durant and seconded by Mrs. Gifford the Committee voted unanimously to approve the retirement of Edward DePastina, Special Education and Business Teacher at East Greenwich High School, effective June 23, 2010 after 31 years of service.**

**c. On a motion made by Mrs. Gifford and seconded by Mr. Martin, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the retirement of Virginia Giuliani, Secretary to the Superintendent and School Committee, effective June 30, 2010, after 38 years of service.**

**On a motion made by Mr. Durant and seconded by Mr. Martin, the Committee, being polled individually, voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 7:55p.m. under RIGL 42-46-5 (a) (2) for a continuation of the session at the beginning of the meeting.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Virginia Giuliani**

**Secretary**